

**REMARKS**

Claims 1-15 and 17-31 were reported in the Office Action as pending. Claims 1-15 and 17-31 are rejected. Claims 1, 4, 9, 12, 13, 19, 23, and 30 have been amended. Claims 3, 7, 8, 16, 17, 21, 22, and 28 are cancelled. Claims 1, 2, 4-6, 9-15, 18, 20, 23-27 and 29-31 remain. Claims 8, 9, 11, 17-19, 21, 22, 28 and 30 are objected to as being dependent upon a rejected base claim, but would be allowable if rewritten in independent form including all of the limitations of the base claim and any intervening claims.

Applicant requests reconsideration of the application in view of the following remarks.

It is asserted in the Office Action that Claims 1-7, 10, 12-15, 20, 23-27, 29 and 31 are rejected under 35 USC 102(b) as being anticipated by Thurmond (US 5347262). In response, Applicant has amended Claim 1 by incorporating the features of Claims 3, 7 and 8, which claims have been cancelled. Thus, Claim 1 now corresponds to Claim 8 rewritten in independent form. Claims 4, 9 and 12 have been amended so as to depend from currently amended Claim 1 instead of from cancelled claim 3 or 7. Claims 13 and 23 have been amended to include the features of Claims 21 and 28 respectively. Thus, Claim 13 and 23 correspond to Claim 21 and 28 rewritten in independent form. Claims 21 and 28 have been cancelled and Claim 19 has been amended to depend from currently amended Claim 13 instead of Claim 18 which has been cancelled. Claim 30 has been amended to depend from Claim 23 instead of cancelled claim 28. Thus, the remaining claims depend from one of the allowable claims.

Accordingly, reconsideration and withdrawal of the rejection to Claims 1-7, 10, 12-15, 20, 23-27, 29 and 31 under 35 USC 102(b) as being anticipated by Thurmond (US 5347262), is respectfully requested.

Accordingly, Applicant submits that the claims pending following entry of this amendment, namely Claims 1, 2, 4-6, 9-15, 18, 20, 23-27 and 29-31, are now in condition for allowance, which early action is requested.

If there are any additional fees due in connection with the filing of this response, please charge those fees to our Deposit Account No. 02-2666. If a telephone interview would expedite the prosecution of this Application, the Examiner is invited to contact the undersigned at (310) 207-3800.

Respectfully submitted,

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**CERTIFICATE OF TRANSMISSION**

I hereby certify that this correspondence is being submitted electronically via EFS Web to the United States Patent and Trademark Office on the date shown below.

Linda Metz

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